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Message Text

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ACTION SS-25

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O 200950Z SEP 75
FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 6607

C O N F I D E N T I A L CAIRO 9352

EXDIS

FOR CATTO AND ATHERTON FROM AMBASSADOR

EO 11652: GDS
TAGS: OVIP (SADAT, ANWAR)
SUBJECT: STATE VISIT OF PRESIDENT SADAT

REF: STATE 223911

1. I HAVE BEEN IN TOUCH WITH HASSAN KAMEL TODAY FOR A PRELIMINARY DISCUSSION OF PLANNING FOR PRESIDENT SADAT'S UPCOMING VISIT.

2. I TOLD HIM THE OFFICIAL PARTY CANNOT EXCEED TWELVE. UNOFFICIAL PARTY AND SUPPORT MEMBERS CAN BE AS MANY AS THE PRESIDENT WANTS TO BRING, WITHIN REASON. KAMEL'S IMMEDIATE RESPONSE WAS THE PRESIDENT'S GROUP WILL BE "SMALL, ONLY ABOUT 100." I SUGGESTED AS TACTFULLY AS I COULD THAT HANDLING MORE THAN 60 BEGINS TO GET A BIT COMPLICATED. KAMEL ASKED IF THE 60 INCLUDES THE 12 OFFICIAL MEMBERS. I HAD TO ACKNOWLEDGE THAT I DID NOT KNOW, BUT SUGGESTED THAT WE WERE TALKING ABOUT THE OVERALL NUMBER. KAMEL SAID GOE WILL TRY TO KEEP THE NUMBERS BETWEEN 60 AND 70, BUT THE PRESIDENT WOULD HAVE TO DECIDE.

3. I ALSO TOLD HIM THAT BLAIR HOUSE NORMALLY HOLDS 12, BUT CAN BE INCREASED TO 16, INCLUDING
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SEVERAL IN SINGLE ROOMS. HE COMMENTED THAT THE SADAT

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FAMILY MEMBERS COULD BE PUT UP THERE ALONG WITH
PERHAPS A FEW OF THE PRESIDENT'S CLOSEST ADVISORS.

4. I ALSO SUGGESTED THAT KAMEL OR SOMEONE FROM
HIS OFFICE CONSIDER VISITING WASHINGTON NEXT WEEK
TO BE ABLE TO OBSERVE THE STATE VISIT OF COLOMBIAN
PRESIDENT. KAMEL SAID THIS IS TOO EARLY. I THEN
SUGGESTED HE SHOULD PLAN TO ARRIVE WASHINGTON
OCTOBER 15, INDICATING THAT ANY EARLIER DATE IN OCTOBER
WOULD BE A BIT DIFFICULT BECAUSE OF THE VISIT OF
THE EMPEROR OF JAPAN. KAMEL SAID HE THOUGHT
OCTOBER 15 DATE IS TOO LATE. SINCE EGYPTIAN ADVANCE PARTY ALSO
WISHES VISIT OTHER CITIES ON THE PRESIDENT'S ITINERARY, IT
WOULD MEAN THEY COULD NOT LEAVE THE US TO RETURN TO CAIRO UNTIL
OCTOBER 20 OR SO. HE HAD HOPED TO GO ON OCT 10.

5. AS A PERSONAL IDEA, I SUGGESTED THE EGYPTIAN
PARTY MIGHT WISH FIRST TO VISIT OTHER CITIES ON
THE PRESIDENT'S ITINERARY AND THEN ARRIVE IN
WASHINGTON OCTOBER 15 FOR TALKS WITH PROTOCOL
PEOPLE THERE. IF HE THOUGHT WELL OF THIS IDEA,
I WOULD EXPLORE WASHINGTON'S REACTION TO IT.
KAMEL LIKED THE SUGGESTION AND ASKED THAT I DO SO.
HE POINTED OUT THAT SUCH AN ARRANGEMENT WOULD
ENABLE THE EGYPTIAN DELEGATION TO LEAVE THE US
NO LATER THAN OCT 17 OR SO. PLEASE ADVISE IF
SUCH AN ARRANGEMENT IS FEASIBLE. IT WOULD PROBABLY
MEAN A BRIEF PRELIMINARY STOP IN WASHINGTON TO
TOUCH BASE AND PERHAPS A PROTOCOL OFFICER WOULD HAVE
TO ACCOMPANY TO VARIOUS CITIES. ALTERNATIVELY,
GHORBAL AND/OR MATTHEWS COULD ESCORT THE GROUP.

6. KAMEL HAD NO IDEA ABOUT WHAT OTHER CITIES THE
PRESIDENT MIGHT WISH TO VISIT. I INTEND TO RAISE
THIS WITH FAHMY WHEN I SEE HIM LATER TODAY.

7. AS REQUESTED, WE WILL PULL TOGETHER BIO MATERIAL
ON POSSIBLE MEMBERS OF SADAT'S PARTY.
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